



COMBAT SUPPORT SQUADRON 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT

The Combat Support Squadron was a new concept when it was officially activated September 10, 1985 at Downs Barracks, Fulda, Germany. It was conceived as part of the Cavalry 86 force restructuring. Throughout the 11th Armored Cavalry's history it had previously had to rely on non-regimental logistics support provided by Corps elements.

The Combat Support (CS) Squadron was provisionally activated February 21, 1985 and was a first of its' kind in the Army. When this guidon was uncased in September 1985, the squadron consisted of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, Maintenance Troop, Supply & Transportation Troop, Medical Troop and the 19th / 54th Chemical Troop.

The origin of the Squadron nickname "Packhorse" is attributed to COL Joe G. Driskill, 51st Colonel of the Regiment. At a operations order brief, during REFORGER '85, COL Driskill first referred to the Squadron as "Packhorse" while addressing the then five Squadron Commanders. "Packhorse" symbolizes the early days of the US Cavalry when troopers went on campaigns accompanied by additional horses which carried all essential supplies and equipment needed on special cargo carrying devices known as pack saddles.

The origin of the Squadron motto, "Heart of the Blackhorse" is attributed to LTC Larry J. Lust (2nd CS Squadron Commander). When you look at the Blackhorse symbol, the head represents the Regimental Headquarters; which gives guidance and direction, the four legs represent the four maneuver squadrons; which give the Regiment speed, endurance and power, and the heart represents the Combat Support Squadron which pumps logistical life into the Regiment each and every day.

The Combat Support Squadron was deactivated, at Downs Barracks, Fulda Germany February 15, 1994.

When the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment was reactivated at Fort Irwin, California on October 26, 1994, so too was Support Squadron although it looked different with no Medical Troop and the addition of the 58th Combat Engineer Company and the 511th Military Intelligence Company. The Squadron was redesignated as the Regimental Support Squadron in 1999 and the Combat Support label, as well as this guidon, were retired. The Combat Support and Combat Service Support missions still exist and continue to be provided by the current troopers of the Support Squadron in the same exemplary manner as their predecessors have throughout the squadron's existence.

"PACKHORSE"